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Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 217082

EXDIS FOR SCRANTON AND SHERER ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT STOCKHOLM 4731 ACTION SECSTATE 31 AUG QUOTE

S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 4731

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, AO, SW
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NETO OF ANGOLA

1. PIERRE SCHORI, AIDE TO PRIME MINISTER PALME, ASKED DCM TO COME BY ON AN URGENT BASIS MORNING AUGUST 31. SCHORI SAID MESSAGE FOR USG HAD JUST ARRIVED FOR PALME AUG. 30, AND SINCE PRIMIN WAS OUT OF STOCKHOLM CAMPAIGNING, HE HAD INSTRUCTED SCHORI TO DELIVER MESSAGE ORALLY TO EMBASSY. SCHORI READ MESSAGE ALOUD, TRANSLATING FROM SWEDISH. HE PROMISED TO HAVE ENGLISH TRANSLATION MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND WILL FURNISH IN WRITING.

2. TEXT OF MESSAGE FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: PRESIDENT NETO WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF PRIME
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MINISTER PALME COULD PASS THE FOLLOWING TO USG.

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1. ANGOLA IS VERY INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING NORMAL RELATIONS WITH US IN SPIRIT OF MUTUAL RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER'S SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE.

2. ANGOLA IS NOT A SATELLITE OF THE USSR. ANGOLA HAS AN ALLIANCE WITH CUBA, MOTIVATED BY THE STATE OF WAR IN THE COUNTRY, BUT THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT IS STRONGLY DETERMINED NOT TO BECOME SUBJECT TO ANY KIND OF INFLUENCE.

3. THE CUBAN PRESENCE HAS NO AGGRESSIVE PURPOSE, AND THERE ARE NO ARRIERES-PENSEES. ANGOLA NEEDS CUBA'S AID, ESPECIALLY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND INSTRUCTION IN THE USE OF ARMS. FAPLA (THE ARMED FORCES) MUST LEARN TO MASTER ADVANCED MILITARY TECHNIQUES. THE ENEMY ALREADY HAS THIS KNOWLEDGE. THE FRONTIERS TO ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA ARE VERY SENSITIVE. ALSO, IN PUBLIC HEALTH, THE CUBANS ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE, AND (A COMMON) LANGUAGE FACILITATES THEIR ASSISTANCE. WHEN THE PORTUGUESE LEFT ANGOLA, THERE WERE ONLY 69 ANGOLAN DOCTORS.

4. THE CUBAN PRESENCE IS NOT DIRECTED AGAINST US INTERESTS. PRESIDENT NETO WISHES TO GIVE THE USG HIS GUARANTEE (SCHORI UNDERLINED WORD "GUARANTEE") THAT THE CUBAN PRESENCE IS MOTIVATED ONLY BY ANGOLA'S DETERMINATION TO CONSOLIDATE HER NEW INDEPENDENCE, AND BY NOTHING ELSE.

5. ANGOLA HAS A STRONG INTEREST IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE UNITED NATIONS. UNNECESSARY DELAYS CREATE IRRITATION AMONG THE PEOPLE AND WITHIN THE MPLA.

6. THERE IS A GREAT FUTURE FOR US-ANGOLAN BILATERAL RELATIONS. END TEXT.

3. SCHORI SAID PALME WOULD APPRECIATE THE AMBASSADOR'S FORWARDING THIS MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON. DCM ASKED THAT SCHORI THANK PRIME MINISTER ON BEHALF OF AMBASSADOR FOR HIS ASSISTANCE IN PASSING THIS MESSAGE ALONG, AND SAID THE EMBASSY WOULD PASS IT PROMPTLY TO WASHINGTON.

4. IN VERY BRIEF DISCUSSION AFTER READING MESSAGE,
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SCHORI CALLED PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO POINT 5, AND SAID HE ASSUMED NETO WAS TELLING USG THAT HE WAS UNDER PRESSURE FROM MORE RADICAL OR PRO-SOVIET ELEMENTS. SCHORI NOTED THAT HE HAD BEEN TO ANGOLA IN JUNE AND HAD CARRIED THE GENERAL MESSAGE WHICH THE SECRETARY HAD GIVEN TO PALME DURING HIS VISIT TO STOCKHOLM, PARTICULARLY THAT THE US WAS PREPARED TO HAVE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA ONCE THE CUBAN PRESENCE WAS REMOVED. SCHORI SAID

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NETO WAS VERY PLEASED AT THIS MESSAGE FROM KISSINGER.
HE ADDED THAT HE HAD TOLD NETO THAT IF SWEDEN COULD SERVE
AS TRANSMITTER OF MESSAGES IT WOULD BE GLAD TO. SCHORI
SAID IT HAD TAKEN NETO A GOOD WHILE TO GET THIS MESSAGE
OUT (HE PRESUMED TRANSMISSION WAS ONE PROBLEM, AND NOTED
THAT IT HAD ARRIVED BY MESSENGER, HAND CARRIED), BUT
ANGOLAN BUREAUCRACY WAS VERY SMALL AND NEW, WITH ONLY
TEN PERSONS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.
SMITH
UNQTE. ROBINSON

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To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
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